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2173October 6, 1905

death; dysentery, 12 cases, 1 death. For the week ended August 27: Enteric fever, 2 cases, no deaths; diphtheria, 2 cases, no deaths; dys-

entery, 4 cases, 3 deaths.

As will be noted from the above, an officially notified case of cholera has recently occurred in this city. A few cases of the same disease have been reported in several other localities in Japan during the present summer. The disease has in no instance assumed epidemic proportions, in this respect resembling cholerine rather than true cholera.

Plague.—On the 28th ultimo a case of plague was detected in Kobe in the person of a foreman in a cotton-spinning mill. The source of infection does not seem to be definitely determined. Workmen whose duties bring them in contact with cotton seem to figure too prominently among the victims of plague in Japan. I have in a former report furnished statistics showing what a large amount of Indian raw cotton is imported annually into this country and it seems quite possible that this material may be an important medium of conveying plague infection.

Rats showing plague bacilli continue to be found in the Fukagawa district of Tokyo.

September 8, 1905.

During the week ended September 2, 1905, bills of health were issued, after inspection, to 5 vessels having an aggregate personnel of 466 crew and 398 passengers; 87 steerage passengers were bathed and 137 pieces of baggage were disinfected; 244 intending steerage passengers for the United States were examined with reference to their freedom from any loathsome or dangerous contagious disease barred under the United States immigration laws.

Reports from Kobe up to the 3d instant indicate that 3 new cases of plague with 1 death have occurred in that city in addition to the case reported in my last letter. It is stated that among 650 rats captured in the infected neighborhood, 17 were found, on microscopic examination, to contain plague bacilli. The sanitary authorities seem to be enforcing rigid and far-reaching prophylactic measures. It is mentioned that the authorities contemplate the disinfection, or perhaps destruction, of a considerable quantity of supposedly infected cotton.

Emigrants recommended for rejection.

Number of emigrants per steamship *Iyo Maru*, recommended, September 8, 1905, for rejection: For Seattle, 47.

Report from Kobe—Emigrants recommended for rejection.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Fowler reports, September 4, as follows: Month of August, 1905:

August 1, steamship Shawmut, 7, for United States.

August 5, steamship China, 5, for Honolulu; 3, for San Francisco.

August 19, steamship *Doric*, 1, for San Francisco.

August 19, steamship *Tremont*, 5, for Tacoma. August 27, steamship *Manchuria*, 3, for Honolulu; 2, for San Francisco.